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Committee for Programme and Coordination
Forty-first session
11 June to 6 July 2001
Agenda item 9
Adoption of the report of the Committee on the work of its forty-first session

Draft report

Rapporteur: Mr. Ayman M. **Elgammal** (Egypt)

Addendum

Programme questions: evaluation
(Item 4 (b))

Triennial review of the implementation of the recommendations made by the Committee for Programme and Coordination at its thirty-eighth session on the in-depth evaluation of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme

1. At its 3rd and 4th meetings, on 11 and 12 June 2001, the Committee considered the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the triennial review of the implementation of the recommendations made by the Committee for Programme and Coordination at its thirty-eighth session on the in-depth evaluation of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme (E/AC.51/2001/5).

2. The Under-Secretary-General for Internal Oversight Services introduced the report. The representative of the Secretary-General responded to the questions raised during the Committee's consideration of the report.

Discussion

3. Concern and disappointment were expressed at the lack of implementation of many of the recommendations adopted by the Committee three years ago. In particular, disappointment was expressed that neither the in-depth evaluation report nor the CPC conclusions and recommendations on it were submitted to the

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Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its eighth session, as requested by CPC. It was stated that the integration of mandates into the programme should be carried out as recommended in order to improve the focus of the programme. The view was expressed that, although the report stated that recommendation one on strategic management has been implemented, there are still issues outstanding, such as the appropriate attention to be given to some activities related to crime prevention and criminal justice. It was underlined that the programme should devote more attention to its original mandates in favour of crime prevention and criminal justice to counterbalance the excessive attention given to organized crime.

4. It was noted that mechanisms are in place for monitoring standards and norms, but that there is little or no evidence that the recommendation to improve the monitoring has been carried out. Proposals to the twelfth session of the Commission on a revised mechanism for reporting on standards and norms and minimizing the reporting burden on Member States should reflect and incorporate any related proposals made as a follow-up to the related suggestions of the Executive Director to the Commission at its tenth session.

5. The lack of a public information strategy was noted. The suggestion was made that the Centre should consider drawing more on the expertise of the Department of Public Information in developing its information strategy. The tenfold increase in visits to the Centre's web site was noted. The proposal that a focus group discussion be held among the representatives of major user groups of the programme's publications was endorsed on the understanding that it would be done within existing resources.

6. The view was expressed that follow-up work on the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime should be a priority area in the programme. It was also felt that the three global programmes give too much attention to organized crime and not enough to other issues.

7. The Centre should develop a fund-raising strategy in order to avoid an ad hoc approach to funding. This strategy should not be seen as an end in itself but used as a management tool.

Conclusion and recommendation

8. The Committee for Programme and Coordination recommended the approval of the conclusions of the triennial review and the proposed reviews by OIOS contained in them.